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HEADQUARTERS
2d BOMBARDMENT DIVISION
APO 558 "

TACTICAL MISSION REPORT

FIELD ORDER NO.

1029

TARGETS

DESSAU
KOTHEM
MAGDEBURG

DATE

16 August 1944

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: By Auth of CG :
: 2d Bomb Dir :
: Initials CRS :
: Date 17 Sep 44 :
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HEADQUARTERS 2d BOMBARDMENT DIVISION
AF 147 APO 558

5 September 1944

SUBJECT: Tactical Report of Mission, Three A/C Factories and Oil Refinery in Central Germany, 16 August 1944.

TO : Commanding General, Eighth Air Force, APO 634

SUMMARY OF MISSION

1. Data

- a. Date of Mission - 16 August 1944
- b. Primary Targets and Order of Battle -
- Dessau A/C Factory - 2nd "A" CBW (445th BG)
 - Dessau A/C Factory - 2nd "B" CBW (453rd BG)
 - Dessau A/C Factory - 2nd "C" CBW (389th, 453rd BG)
 - Kothen A/C Factory - 14th "A" CBW (44th BG)
 - Kothen A/C Factory - 14th "B" CBW (392nd BG)
 - Magdeburg/Rothensee (Oil) - 20th "A" CBW (93rd, 448th BG)
 - Magdeburg/Rothensee (Oil) - 20th "B" CBW (489th, 446th BG)
 - Magdeburg/Neustadt A/C Factory - 96th "A" CBW (467th BG)
 - Magdeburg/Neustadt A/C Factory - 96th "B" CBW (458th, 466th BG)
- c. Secondary Targets
- Stendal A/F - 2nd CBW
 - Fallersleben - 14th CBW
 - Misburg Oil Refinery - 20th CBW
 - Gardelegen A/F - 96th CBW
- If PFF, All Units - Hanover, Center of the city.
- d. Last Resort Target - Any military objective positively identified as being in Germany or in an occupied country any M/Y, any railroad bridge, any road bridge, any enemy column or convoy on the road, any concentration of troops or equipment. All above targets must not be adjacent to a built-up area, and must be positively identified as one of the above objectives. A visual sighting must be made.

2. Narrative.

a. Planning.

(1) Eighth Air Force called for a force of thirty Squadrons to visually attack two aircraft engine plants, one aircraft component plant and one oil refinery in central Germany.

b. Execution.

- (1) Assemblies were accomplished without incident.
- (2) The mission was flown substantially as planned.

3. Bombing Tactics and Results.

a. All units visually attacked their assigned targets except one Squadron of the 489th Group, which had accidental release between the IP and the target due to an electrical malfunction.

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Tactical Report of Mission, 16 August 44 (cont'd)

b. Strike photographs show the following:

Dessau - hits on wind tunnel, power and boiler houses, previously bombed buildings, workshops, offices, RR tracks, airfield and airfield installations.

Kothen - Target blanketed with bombs, hits on storage areas, workshops, marshalling yard and many installations in target area.

Magdeburg/Rothensee - hits on target installations, buildings, RR line.

Magdeburg/Neustadt - hits on engine assembly shop, machine shop, RR lines, buildings in target area and adjacent installations.

4. Anti-Aircraft Gunfire.

a. Moderate to intense and accurate predictor control fire was encountered by all Groups attacking Magdeburg, and a certain amount of fixed barrage fire was also encountered. In spite of the fact that the attack was fairly well concentrated, the accuracy of the anti-aircraft showed no signs of deteriorating on this occasion. Several "scarecrow" flares resembling burning aircraft were seen in the target area.

b. Intense and accurate predictor control fire was encountered by the first two Groups to attack Dessau, but the last Group encountered only fixed barrage fire until after bombs were released when they were engaged by predictor control fire while leaving the target.

c. Moderate, not very accurate predictor control fire was encountered at Kothen. Fixed barrage fire was also encountered at this target.

d. Moderate gunfire was encountered on route at Brunswick and Bremen.

e. Meager gunfire was encountered on route at Ijmuiden, Aschersleben and Helmstedt.

f. Six cylindrical objects attached to parachutes were observed in the Kothen area. These cylinders were attached to the cords of the parachutes, and several of them were seen to be on fire. These parachutes were seen in the middle of the anti-aircraft, but crews were unable to see if they emanated from this source.

5. Enemy Aircraft Encountered and Fighter Support.

a. No enemy aircraft were encountered and fighter support was good throughout the entire route.

6. Losses and Claims.

a. Five aircraft were lost to anti-aircraft, one to an accident and one to an unknown cause.

b. Claims were nil.

For the Commanding General:

Charles B. Westover

CHARLES B. WESTOVER
Colonel GSC
Chief of Staff

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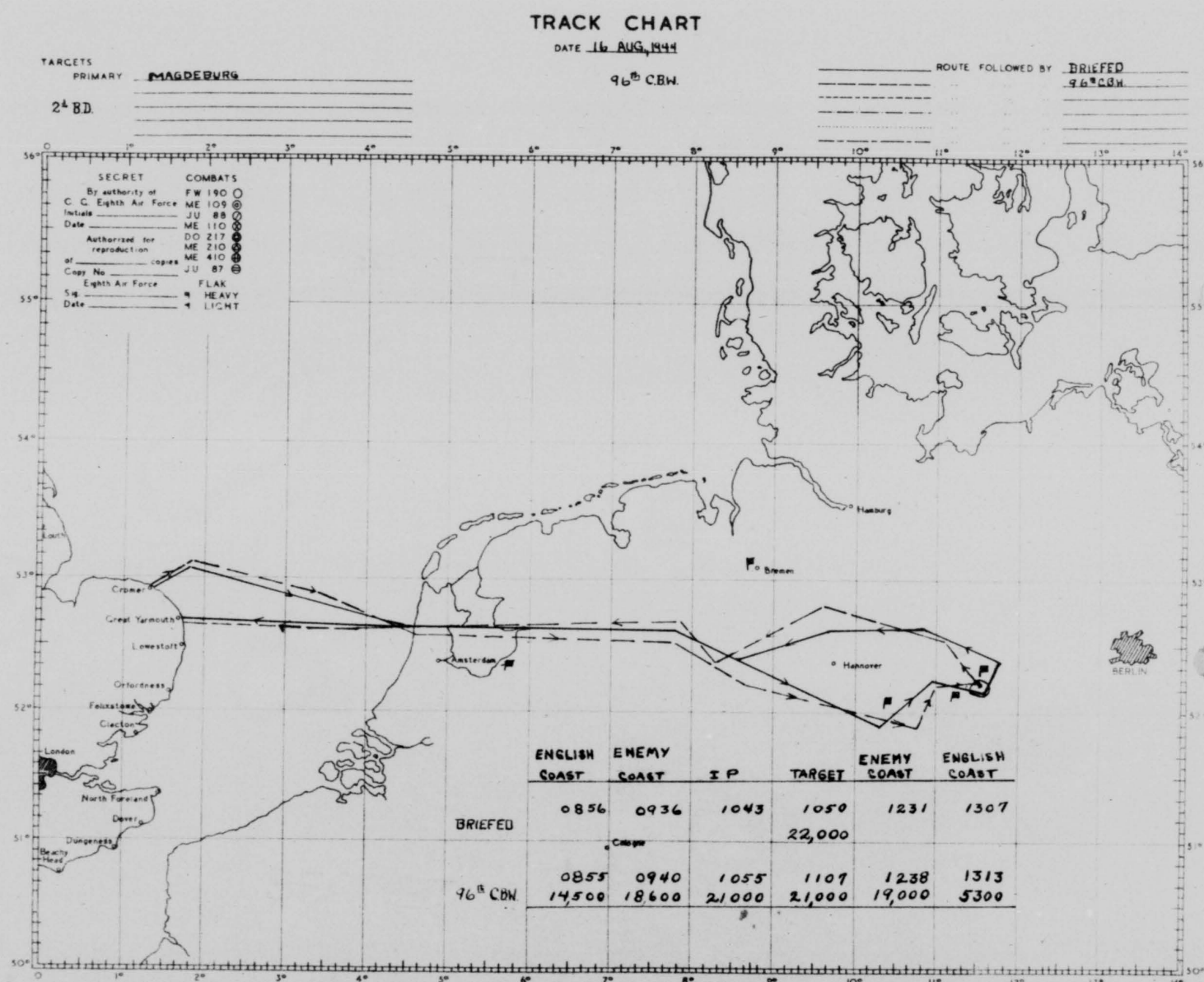
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Tactical Bombing Report of Mission, 16 August 1944

GROUP	DIRECT OF RUN	LENGTH OF RUN	ALTITUDE	TIME OF RELEASE	PILOT	FLEN AUTO FLEN	RANGE & DEFLECT	TOTAL BOMBS AND TYPE	NO. A/C BOMBING	DROPPED ON H2X OR CH	VISUAL
<u>DESSAU (A/C FACTORY)</u>											
445	64	5 min.	23,000	1057	A-5		3 3	302x500	33		X
453	64	2 min.	24,000	1059		X	1 1		11	1 H2X Flares of 445th Group	X
453	80	1 min.	22,000	1059½	A-5		2 2	220x500	22		X
453	68	1 min.	23,800	1103½	A-5		1 1		9		X
389	69	9 min.	23,000	1102	C-1		2 2	209x500	21	2 H2X	X
<u>KOTHEM (A/C FACTORY)</u>											
44	74		22,000	1102	A-5		2 2	210x500	21	1 H2X	X
44	70		22,300	1102½	C-1		1 1		12		X
392	52	2 min.	22,000	1103	A-5		2 4	264x500	22	2 H2X	X
392	52	2 min.	22,800	1103	A-5		1 1		12		X
<u>MAGDEBURG/ROTHENSEE (OIL)</u>											
93	69	6 min.	23,000	1102	C-1		2 2	252x500	21	2 H2X	X
448	95	1 min.	22,700	1105	C-1		2 2	210x500	21		X
489	97		22,000	1059	C-1		1 1	568x100	11	1 H2X	X
489	85	1 min.	21,500	1105	A-5		1 1	572x100	11		X
446	100	45 sec.	23,000	1106	A-5		3 3	1603x100	31		X
<u>MAGDEBURG/NEUSTADT (A/C FACTORY)</u>											
467	111	4 min.	22,000	1106½	A-5		2 2	249x500	21	2 H2X	X
467	108	4 min.	22,500	1107½	A-5		1 1		12		X
458	100	4 min.	22,000	1108	A-5		2 2	227x500	19	2 H2X	X
466	112	30 sec.	23,000	1110	A-5	High on 458th	1 2	122x500	11		X

- The assigned primary targets for this mission were aircraft factories at Dessau, Kothem, and Magdeburg and an oil refinery at Magdeburg.
- Bombing was done visually by Squadrons, six Squadrons being led by H2X A/C.
- One Squadron of the 489th Group had an accidental release between the IP and the target due to an electrical malfunction. The lead Squadron of the 453rd Group dropped on flares of the preceding Group due to a bombsight and ante pilot malfunction happening too late in the run for the deputy lead to take over. One A/C did not bomb due to a rack linkage malfunction, one A/C had an accidental release due to an intervalometer malfunction and another A/C dropped one half of its bombs on the primary and one half, 26x100 HE, on the A/F at Egnort due to a rack malfunction.

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Tactical Bombing Report of Mission, 16 August 44 (cont'd)

d. Results of bombing:

Dessau	Good	Hits on wind tunnel, power and boiler houses, previously bombed buildings, workshops, offices, RR tracks, airfield and airfield installations.
Kothen	Very good	Target blanketed with bombs, hits on storage areas, workshops, marshalling yard and many installations in target area.
Magdeburg/Rothensee	Good	Hits on target installations, buildings, RR lines.
Magdeburg/Neustadt	Very good	Hits on engine assembly shop, machine shop, RR lines, buildings in target area and adjacent installations.

e. Disposition of bombs by H2X A/C:

Dessau	2 A/C	4x500 HE
Dessau	1 A/C	2x500 TB
Kothen	4 A/C	16x500 HE
Magdeburg/Rothensee	2 A/C	4x500 HE
Magdeburg/Neustadt	4 A/C	16x500 HE
Accidental release	1 A/C	10x100 HE

S E C R E T

HEADQUARTERS
458TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H)
AAF 123 APO 558

18 August 1944.

SUBJECT: Statistical Summary of Operations, Mission of 16 August 1944.

TO: Commanding General, 2d Bombardment Division.
Attention: Statistical Control.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS

A.	Group	458
B.	Division F.O.	435
C.	Date of Operation	16 August 1944
D.	Ordered Primary Target.	Magdeburg Junkers Motor Works
E.	A/C Airborne.	22
F.	A/C Sorties	19
G.	A/C Attacking	19
H.	A/C Not Attacking	3
I.	A/C Attacking - Primary Target.	19 - 227 X 500 GP 12 bombs jettisoned 24 bombs returned
J.	A/C Attacking - Secondary Target.	Nil
K.	A/C Attacking - Last Resort Target.	Nil
L.	A/C Attacking - Opportunity Target.	Nil
M.	A/C Lost - Flak	Nil
N.	A/C Lost - Flak and E/A	Nil
O.	A/C Lost - E/A.	Nil
P.	A/C Lost - Accident	Nil
Q.	A/C Lost - Cause Unknown.	Nil
R.	Time of Take Off.	0711
S.	Average Time of Flight.	6:21
T.	Comments:	Bombed PFF

For the Commanding Officer:

JOSEPH S. WILLIAMS
1st Lt, AC
Statistical Officer

S E C R E T

FORMATION PLAN

LEAD SQUADRON - B GROUP 96 CWHATHAWAY-JAMISON

C PFF : 610H

NEWELL

Z5 : 165S

LOY

7V : 340N

NIELSON

PFF : 599K

FREDERICK

J3 : 183U

BRADLEY

Z5 : 276G

DYWRE

Z5 : 110P

K-22

MCCARTHY

J4 : 163M

BOYLE

J4 : 705W

K-20

HOOD

7V : 4550

GAINES

J4 : 285H

K-21

VINCENT

J4 : 066Y

LOW LEFT SQUADRON - B GROUP 96 CWROBERTS-WRIGHT

C 7V : 502A

MORRIS

J4 408D

FUSON

J4 : 134R

K-22

KLOHE

Z5 : 366H

COYLE

7V : 179X

KENYONJ3 : 516K ~~ABORT~~ J3 : 4250GLASSDGE

Z5 : 126L

K-21

STOESSER7V : 314L ~~ABORT~~ 7V : 812VSMITH

K-21

COOK

7V : 709I

HELFREOT

7V : 303H

K-20

~~ABORT~~

ORDER OF TAKE OFF

<u>WEST</u>		<u>SHIP</u>	<u>RUNWAY 05</u>	<u>SHIP</u>	<u>EAST</u>
<u>DISP</u>			<u>NO.</u>		<u>DISP</u>
697Z		2	1		
			2	340N	27
			3	163M	41
			4	066Y	49
			5	285H	39
502A	23		6		
366H	10		7		
126L	8		8		
			9	303H	32
			10	709I	29
165S	5		11		
183U	18		12		
110P	7		13		
276G	1		14		
126L	15		15	4550	28
126L	15		16		
184P	16		17		
			18	179X	29
4250	20		19		
516K	17		20		
812V	19		21		
			22	314L	34
			23	134R	47

SPARES:

705W-J4-36

408D-J4-38

273T-J4-42

768A-25-9

Assembly Aircraft-697Z-

Pilot-McCoughlough

Major La Roche

458th Pilots and Aircraft as listed on Formation Plans

Date	Target	Pilot	458th Msn	Pilot Msn	Cmd Pilot	Ld	Serial	Last 3	RCL	Sqdn	A/C Msn	A/C Name	Comments
16-Aug-44	MAGDEBURG	BOYLE	115	18			41-28705	705	W	Z5	41	YE OLDE HELLGATE	SHIP INFO WRITTEN
16-Aug-44	MAGDEBURG	BRADLEY	115	25			41-29276	276	G	Z5	25	URGIN VIRGIN/The ROTTEN SOCK	
16-Aug-44	MAGDEBURG	COOK	115	ABT			41-28709	709	I	7V	--	LUCKY STRIKE	ABORT - COULD NOT KEEP UP WITH FORMATION
16-Aug-44	MAGDEBURG	COYLE	115	19			42-95179	179	X	7V	38	HERE I GO AGAIN	
16-Aug-44	MAGDEBURG	DWYRE	115	11			42-51110	110	P	Z5	35	TOP O' THE MARK	
16-Aug-44	MAGDEBURG	FREDERICK	115	4			42-95183	183	U	J3	33	BRINEY MARLIN	
16-Aug-44	MAGDEBURG	FUSON	115	16			44-40134	134	R	J4	16	UNKNOWN 039	
16-Aug-44	MAGDEBURG	GAINES	115	24			44-40285	285	H	J4	29	TABLE STUFF	
16-Aug-44	MAGDEBURG	GLASS	115	7			42-100425	425	O	J3	27	THE BIRD	
16-Aug-44	MAGDEBURG	HATHAWAY	115	19	JAMISON	L1	42-95610	610	H	T9	--	UNKNOWN 037	466BG/784SQ
16-Aug-44	MAGDEBURG	HELFRECHT	115	5			41-29303	303	H	Z5	38	LIBERTY LIB	
16-Aug-44	MAGDEBURG	HOOD	115	3			42-52455	455	O	7V	51	PLUTOCRAT	
16-Aug-44	MAGDEBURG	JUDGE	115	33			44-40126	126	L	Z5	20	SPITTEN KITTEN / SKY TRAMP	
16-Aug-44	MAGDEBURG	KENYON	115	ABT			42-7516	516	K	J3	--	GATOR	ABORT - #1 ENG LOSS OF BOOST
16-Aug-44	MAGDEBURG	KLOHE	115	6			42-100366	366	H	Z5	43	MIZPAH	
16-Aug-44	MAGDEBURG	LOY	115	26			41-29340	340	N	7V	48	YANKEE BUZZ BOMB	
16-Aug-44	MAGDEBURG	McCARTHY	115	19			42-110163	163	M	J4	20	TIME'S A WASTIN	
16-Aug-44	MAGDEBURG	McCOLLOUGH	115	ASSY	LaROCHE		41-28697	697	Z	Z5	A11	SPOTTED APE	ASSEMBLY CREW
16-Aug-44	MAGDEBURG	MORRIS, F	115	4			42-100408	408	D	J4	28	BEASTFACE	SHIP INFO WRITTEN
16-Aug-44	MAGDEBURG	NEWELL	115	26			42-95165	165	S	Z5	29	COOKIE	
16-Aug-44	MAGDEBURG	NIELSON	115	--		D1	42-50599	599	K	T9	--	466BG/784SQ	
16-Aug-44	MAGDEBURG	ROBERTS, J	115	22	WRIGHT	L2	42-50502	502	A	7V	2	LARRUPIN' LINDA	
16-Aug-44	MAGDEBURG	SMITH, WF	115	ABT			42-109812	812	V	7V	--	UNKNOWN 016	ABORT - ENGINEER BECAME ILL
16-Aug-44	MAGDEBURG	STOESSER	115	3			42-50314	314	L	7V	47	ETO PLAYHOUSE	
16-Aug-44	MAGDEBURG	VINCENT	115	2			44-40066	066	Y	J4	2	S.O.L.	